BULLETIN
METHODIST RURAL FELLOWSHIP
To Further Methodism's Part in Christianizing Rural Life

VOL. XVIII SEPTEMBER, 1961 NO. 3

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OF RELIGION

Dr. Glenn Sanford Retires

Dr. Sanford

The Rev. Dr. Glenn F. Sanford, superintendent of Town and Country Work, the Board of Missions of the Methodist Church, retired the last of June due to ill health.

In his position as superintendent, Dr. Sanford promoted and supervised the development of the Methodist Church and its program in rural areas and small towns throughout the United States. He has helped to establish professorships of town and country work in Methodist colleges and seminaries, helped direct in-service training for rural pastors and helped provide religious leadership for such areas as mountain villages, lumber camps and mining towns.

A native of Arkansas, Dr. Sanford is a graduate of Hendrix College, Conway, Arkansas. He is a member of the North Arkansas Methodist Conference and was pastor of rural and

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Program Said Vital Factor In Rural Church

Rural churches must have an adequate program if they are to survive.

This was the word given a South Iowa Conference banquet by the Rev. Dr. James M. Carr, a Presbyterian rural church leader.

"One thousand churches die each year — a tragedy, but the worse tragedy is that many of them died because they didn't have an adequate program and keep up with the community," Dr. Carr said.

North Iowa town and country leaders were told that "we aren't going to get anywhere by trying to hitch on to the past" by the Rev. Floyd Brower of Caruthersville, Mo.

Specialist Named For Rural Church Work

The Rev. Harold S. Huff, a former pastor, college professor and district superintendent, has joined the staff of the Division of National Missions of the Methodist Board of Missions as a specialist in the rural church. He has been assigned to the Department of Town and Country Work.

Prior to joining the National Division staff August 1, Mr. Huff had been superintendent of the Northern district of the North Dakota Methodist Conference for four years, having been appointed in 1957.

Associate Professor

From 1950 to 1957, Mr. Huff was associate professor of religion at Wesley College, Grand Forks, N. D. During his years there, he organized the college's Department of Rural Church Work and taught courses for undergraduates and ministers, both on the campus and at extension centers throughout North Dakota. He was known as a "flying parson" for his travels from place to place, flying his own airplane.

Dean of Supply School

Dr. Huff served as dean of the first Approved Supply Pastors' School in the North Central Jurisdiction at Hamline University, St. Paul, Minn., in 1953, and has been dean of leadership education schools, youth institutes and the Dakotas Area Pastors' School. He has served on various North Dakota Conference boards and committees and has served as secretary for town and country work of the conference. He was a delegate to the 1956 General Conference and to the 1956 and 1960 North Central Jurisdictional Conferences.

Born in Portland, Ore., Mr. Huff spent his early life there and Beaverton, Ore. He attended Oregon State College at Corvallis and was graduated in 1940 with a bachelor of science degree in education. He took the-

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Western Jurisdiction T&C Conference Held

The Western Jurisdiction Town and Country Conference was held at Willamette University, Salem, Oregon from August 28–31, 1962. A planning committee representative of the conferences in the Jurisdiction met recently in the office of Bishop A. Raymond Grant in Portland, Oregon and made a preliminary sketch of the program.

The next meeting will be held in San Francisco on October 29. Ideas and suggestions are welcome and should be sent to the Rev. Cyril Dorsett, 515 N. Meridian, Newberg, Oregon before that date.

Continuing Memorial Established For Dr. Pat McConnell

Dr. McConnell

Representatives of four Methodist seminaries met at Lakeside, Ohio on June 26 and organized a commission to provide a continuing memorial for the late Dr. Pat McConnell. The Rev. Russell Hoy was elected chairman of the commission.

The memorial will be used to provide awards or scholarships for those students in our twelve seminaries who give the best prophetic address on "The Church Tomorrow".

Awards will be given to the first, second, third and fourth place winners. A gift of $300 annually for several years has already been given. Other gifts are contemplated. Any one desiring to add to this memorial fund may send their check to the Rev. Russell Hoy, Route 3, Coshocton, Ohio. Russell is vice president of the Methodist Rural Fellowship.

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The Methodist Rural Fellowship

A fellowship of Methodist Ministers and laymen who are concerned with Methodism's responsibility toward creating and sustaining a Christian Culture for rural America.

OFFICERS

President: Garland R. Stafford, Box 749, Statesville, N. C.

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PLEASE always send us your change of address when you move.

Notice!

Both the editor and the president were victims of the itinerant system this past June. The editor's new address is Box 346, Pearisburg, Virginia. The president is the new Executive Secretary of Town and Country Work for the Western North Carolina Conference. His new address is Box 749, Statesville, N. C.

From Phillip Aylesworth

(The following is from "Agricultural Notes", a publication of the Federal Extension Service and carries the signature of our good friend Phil Aylesworth. —Editor)

RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Aylesworth

Major emphasis is being placed on measures to cure chronic low-income problems of rural areas. Many farm families are underemployed because they live on inadequate units or because their area lacks educational and other employment opportunities. We have many pockets of poverty throughout the country that are becoming increasingly serious problems.

To attack these problems, the Department of Agriculture is carrying out a Rural Areas Development program. This program is an expansion of and broadening of the work (called the Rural Development Program) that has been going forward in a number of pilot areas during the past few years.

Secretary Freeman Says

Secretary Orville L. Freeman says Rural Areas Development will receive top priority of all programs of the Department. All resources of the Department are being mobilized to assist local communities in carrying forward programs and projects of economic development.

"The Department will provide needed technical services to State and local agencies and groups," Secretary Freeman said. "However, the initiative for formulating and operating successful programs of rural area development must come from the locality, and the drive to keep up the program must be the responsibility of local people."

President Kennedy Signs Act

On May 1, President Kennedy signed the Area Redevelopment Act, Public Law 87–27. This law authorizes Federal loans and grants, technical aid, and retraining over a four-year period in what are termed "depressed" rural and urban areas.

Dept. of Commerce

The Department of Commerce is responsible for administering this program, with the Department of Agriculture expected to be asked to assist in rural areas. Eligible urban areas will be selected on the basis of

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Mr. Stafford

Some requests have come for more information about the M.R.F. There has been some confusion about the place of the Fellowship in relation to the Commission on Town and Country. This rather lengthy message is an effort to give the desired information and clear up some possible confusion.

The Methodist Rural Fellowship came into being at the first General Conference of The Methodist Church at Atlantic City in 1940.

For a number of years prior to 1940 a "rural church movement" had been under way in the church. Administrators and other churchmen had become concerned. All was not well with the rural church. Memberships had been falling. Churches had been closing. Church programs, buildings, and leadership were, on the whole, inadequate.

There was a feeling that Methodism was neglecting its rural churches, that General Conference legislation was needed, and that the urban church had become the accepted norm whereas the rural church was regarded as unalterably inferior. Few people seemed to care for the rural church and its future.

Church administrators not only found it hard to keep trained leadership in the country but sometimes accelerated its departure for "places of larger opportunity."

Those in the "rural church movement" however, were busy pointing out all of this. This concern was the ray of hope.

First Authorization

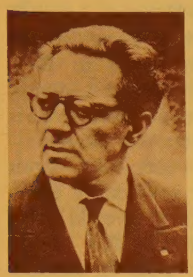
The first **Discipline** of the United Methodist Church issued in 1939, carried an authorization for a Town and Country Commission. It was made up of "the District Superintendents, a representative from each of the participating Boards, including the Woman's Division of Christian Service." The Commission at that time, therefore, was a committee of the conference agencies.

The desire for a "grass roots" organization that could serve as a "voice" for all those interested and working in rural churches had been felt for a long time. As a result, a group was called together and held its first "woodshed" meeting at the 1940 General Conference. Rev. Ralph L. Williamson of New York was elected its first president. Dr. C. M. (Pat)

(Continued on Page 11)

Aerospace Institute At Simpson College

Donald H. Koontz, Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa, was director of what was perhaps the first Aerospace Institute on a college campus. The Institute was held September 5, 6 and 7.



Dr. Willy Ley

Noted rocket authority Willy Ley headed the list of speakers for the Institute. Dr. Ley was born in Berlin, Germany, became a naturalized citizen in 1944, and has been a free lance writer, science editor of a New York newspaper, and has written several books, one, "The Exploration of Mars" with Dr. Werhner Von Braun in 1956.

Other speakers included Gill Robb Wilson, noted writer and editor in aviation; Lt. Col. Vernon F. Kullowatz, Air Force Chaplain; and Dr. Charles Milligan of Iliff School of Theology.

Some of the aims and objectives of the Institute included: 1. Appreciate the changes brought about in geographic relationships by the elimination of natural boundaries and the changing concepts of time and space. 2. Realize the growing interdependence of all people. 3. Explore a concept of God and his relationship to man and the universe that is adequate to man's expanding concept of the universe.

The Iowa Aeronautics Commission made a grant to Simpson College which covered the cost of tuition of those attending.

New Parishes Formed As Part of Iowa Strategy

More than 35 Iowa Area churches found themselves on new charges when appointments were read to conclude this year's Annual Conferences.

The changes—equally divided between the two Conferences—were made in accordance with the church's ten-year program of strategy in Iowa.

The ultimate goal of the parish re-alignment is to provide each pastor with at least 400 members. Rural church leaders say that when this is accomplished each Methodist in Iowa will have the leadership of a fully-trained minister and work loads will be more evenly distributed.

Parish re-alignment is one of the steps whereby the church hopes to combat the shortage of ministers currently being felt.

WORDS FOR T & C MINISTERS, TOO

Ministers who like a ride a high horse should by all means dismount when they meet the press, the Rev. Dr. Ralph Stoody, New York City. director of Methodist Information, said at a meeting at Lake Junaluska recently.

Newspapermen are the "world's best balloon-prickers," Dr. Stoody told a Methodist writers conference, which met July 18–20 at this southeastern Methodist assembly.

Dr. Stoody continued:

"Newspapermen are hard to impress. They meet important persons daily. It's easier than you think to be labeled a 'stuffed shirt.'

"Be open, frank, natural, and friendly when you come in contact with the press.

Be Ready

"The minister who is ready for a visiting reporter at the appointed time, who has his data in hand, who has put the important facts in writing, and who shows that he understands the time element involved in publishing a newspaper has done more than a favor for the newsman. He has served the interests of the church and himself as well."

Instruction In Writing

The conference offered instruction in various types of writing other than news writing. It was sponsored by the Methodist Southeastern Jurisdictional Council in cooperation with other agencies.

Though the agency Dr. Stoody heads is usually called Methodist Information, its official name is the Commission on Public Relations and Methodist Information. It is primarily a general news service for The Methodist Church.

Southeastern Jurisdiction Holds T&C Meet

Laymen and ministers from Virginia to Florida and from Mississippi to South Carolina gathered at Lake Junaluska, N. C., July 27–30 for one of the most productive Town and Country Conferences ever held in the Jurisdiction.

The theme of the conference was "Faith— Facts— Function— Future". The Rev. Carl Sanders, Chairman of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Council, Committee on Town and Country Work, Richmond, Va., spoke on "Methodism's Spiritual Mission and Purpose in Town and Country in the Southeast."

Dr. Brewer

Dr. Earl D. C. Brewer, Professor, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, Ga., spoke on "The Conditions We Face"— the Socio-Cultural - Spiritual Facts. Dr. Harry V. Richardson, treasurer of the Methodist Rural Fellowship, and president, Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta,

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A PART of the group from Holston Conference attending the Southeastern Jurisdiction Town and County Conference at Lake Junaluska, N. C., July 27-30. The Rev. Bob Powers, Chairman of the Commission, is the first on the right in the back row; on his right, almost asleep, is the Rev. Sam Varnell, vice-chairman of the Commission, with his wife, Jane. The "mad" looking fellow next to Mrs. Varnell is your editor. The Rev. James Walter, secretary of the Commission, is the seventh person in the back row, from left to right. Mrs. Walter is on his right. Miss Gladys Newcomb, Coordinator of Rural Work for the Woman's Society of Christian Service is third from the left in the back row.

VIRGINIA COUNTY METHODISTS BRING CUBAN MINISTER TO U. S. A.

MRS. ROMERO, MR. ROMERO and the Rev. Richard Hamblin, pastor of the Staffordsville Circuit in Giles County, discuss the Lord's Acre edition of the weekly newspaper. The Annual Giles County Lord's Acre sale will be held in October.

The Giles County Virginia subdistrict Methodist Youth Fellowship in Holston Conference has provided funds to bring the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Perfecto Romero from Cuba to the United States. Some of the county churches assisted in getting Mr. Romero and his wife from Miami to Giles County.

During the latter part of August the couple spoke in many of the county churches and in other churches in the Tazewell and Wytheville Districts.

The Rev. E. E. Chafin, pastor at Rich Creek, Virginia, was instrumental in getting the Romeros into the States. Mr. Chafin had worked with Mr. Romero in Cuba in a recent evangelistic mission. The first of September Mr. Chafin accompanied the Romeros to Miami and spent some time in the Cuban Refugee Center.

"Everything Is Changed"

Mr. Romero states that "Everything in Cuba has changed since the Communists took over. Cuba is now like one big prison. There is no freedom for anyone. The situation is critical. When Castro first seized power a majority of the people were for him; now the majority are opposed to him."

Schools Nationalized

When the private schools were nationalized about six months ago, Christian education through the schools came to an end. Now all children and youth are indoctrinated with the philosophy of Communism.

Bishop Paul Galloway Speaks

"The Church in the Country"

Some of the ministers do not like to be told what to do and some do not care to have suggestions from us about the program, but I would like to remind all of you that this never stops being a part of a Methodist minister's life.

Bishop Galloway

The good editor, who is also an "Arkansawyer", has been sending out different things for the Texas Bishop's to write about. At first I used my independent enterprising spirit that belongs to a Methodist minister and sort of rebelled inside, and then I began to recognize the sequence of ideas and the correlation to the work of the church. I am grateful that Brother Keightley has done this so efficiently.

I hope you will remember that last week Bishop Paul E. Martin wrote about the church in the city. If you knew the backgrounds as to the churches we have served you would understand why I have selected to write about churches in the country. I have had more country churches than both the others put together and for that reason have probably had twice as much fun as both of them. I have eaten more spare ribs, ham and chicken than they have. I have ridden thousands of miles on turn rows and dirt roads. I have held dozens of school house, camp meetings and brush arbor meetings. I thank God that the church has been at work in the country and still is a generative force for righteousness. From our farms and ranches in the rural areas come thousands of great laymen. We often think of it as reaching out our hand to the country, but really, often it is the country reaching out their hand to help with hearts that are devoted and lives that are strong and Christian.

"Church of The Year" Awards Given in Missouri

Awards were given to six churches and two pastors at the recent annual conference sessions in the Missouri Area.

The "Mrs. John E. Benson Award" for the Minister of the Year in the Southwest Conference went to **Rev. Steve Gardner,** pastor of the Lincoln, Mo. circuit. Two churches have grown to four as he has accepted responsibility for a larger territory even though it means four services a Sunday. Under his care are two MYF's, 3 Men's Groups and 3 WSCS.

The Minister of the Year in the St. Louis Conference is **Rev. A. V. Alcorn,** pastor of the Williamsville Circuit in the Poplar Bluff District. In his 7th year there, Rev. Alcorn has turned down "better" appointments because of his love for the people of his five rural churches. He is proud that all church schools use Methodist literature in serving the 402 members.

The award given by Mrs. Benson stems from the desire of this Kansas City laywoman to recognize outstanding work by rural pastors. Though now blind, Mrs. Benson has been a local preacher in the past and a delegate to the Uniting Conference of Methodism.

Plaques Given

Missouri Conference gave plaques to "District Churches of the Year" across the northern part of the state. Chillicothe District: Prairie View, part of the Kidder Parish, a 48 member open-country church which boasts of its All-Family **Together** plan. Hannibal District: the progressive Street church in Centralia, known for its strong church school program. Kirksville District: Marceline with its 441 members, sizeable sub-organizations and active program of evangelism. Maryville District: One factor in helping Fairfax win here was the successful merger of this town congregation with a smaller rural neighbor and its present aim of serving the enlarged community. St. Joseph District: Weston won not only the district but became the CONFERENCE BLUE RIBBON Church; with 167 members, they have a Men's Club of 33, the **Together** all-family plan, an annual planned program with even sermon topics selected for next year, and a good financial foundation.

"Church of The Year"

The "Church of the Year" for SW Missouri was the Mt. Olivet church in the Nevada District. Outstanding in this church is the spirit with which they have brought growth to an open-country community. 49 members, 20

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Zeigler Named Associate Director

The Rev. Dr. Harley H. Zeigler, chaplain at Willamette University, Salem, Ore., has been named associate director in the Department of Ministerial Education of the Methodist General Board of Education to direct in-service training and correspondence study for ministers.

He began work July 1 at the national headquarters of the board in Nashville.

Dr. Zeigler succeeds the Rev. Dr. J. Richard Spann, Nashville, who retired May 31.

Dr. Zeigler has been chaplain at Willamette, a Methodist-related school, since 1956. His previous appointments have included service as director of the Hawaii School of Religion (affiliated with the University of Hawaii), and as head of the department of philosophy and religion at Mount Union College, Alliance, Ohio. Dr. Zeigler was exchange professor of social ethics at the University of Southern California School of Religion, 1953–54, and exchange professor of religion at the school of religion at State University of Iowa, 1954–55.

WHEAT TO ALGERIA

REV. WESLEY GUNTHER, Enid Mennonite Church, reads the Scripture lesson at the dedication services for the shipment of CROP Wheat. Others are Willis DeSpain, Farmers Co-operative Grain Dealers Assn. and Vice Chairman State CROP Board; J. A. Voth, State MCC Representative on the CROP Board; Wayne Slovacek, Superintendent of Union Equity Elevator "Z"; Rev. Merle Pulver, Enid E.U.B. Church; Herman Pereboom, Garfield County Campaign Director; Roy Bender, Vice President of the Executive Committee of the Oklahoma Council of Churches and Walter Mounts, State CROP Director.

Oklahoma CROP workers dedicated their first carload of wheat collected in the 1961 drive at Enid, July 5 for shipment to Algeria. The Oklahoma wheat will be used to feed refugees

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CAN YOU HELP?

Bulletins have been returned from these old addresses:

Rev. John L. Lauer
Garrett Biblical Inst.
Evanston, Ill.

George Larsen
52 Mechanic St.
Newton Center, Mass.

Rev. S. M. Smith
Box 155
Coolidge, Ariz.

Rev. H. L. Blackwelder
169 Old Haw Creek Rd.
Statesville, N. C.

Rev. Charles A. Tyler
North Vernon, Ind.

Rev. Harold Wagner
Birmingham, Iowa

Cecil Miller
Arlington, S. D.

CROP Ships "Bif"

If you were one of those who receive less than five pounds of meat **per year**, what would your reaction be on turning this key? The majority of people in the undeveloped countries almost never have any meat in their diet. The high protein content of this food together with its compactness make it an excellent product for overseas distribution.

Many County CROP Committees of South Dakota have made their goals in terms of cases of canned "Bif". The CROP Canvass will solicit for small grain: wheat, oats, barley, etc., which will be converted into cash at the elevator and the money used to purchase and ship "Bif".

For individual distribution, the above can (12 oz.) will be shipped. They are packed 24 to a case @ $8.40. A larger can (3 lbs.) will be used for institutional feeding (schools, orphan homes, hospitals, refugee camps). These larger cans are packed 12 to a case @ $15.75.

The County CROP Committees have been enthusiastic about the shipment of canned "Bif" and feel sure that the people in the countries understand "converting grain into meat." Shall I put you down as pledging a case?

Indiana Conference Methodists Endorse CROP

CROP has become a part of the annual town-and-country and Methodist Rural Fellowship banquets in both North Indiana and Northwest Indiana Conferences of the Methodist Church. But this was not true of the Indiana Conference, covering most of the southern half of the state. So it was a pleasant surprise to learn that this conference went on record this year as endorsing CROP. This is timely, for numerous southern counties are being organized for the first time under Church World Service.

Methodism in Indiana is now officially batting 1.000!

Questionnaires Coming In

More than half of all Methodist ministers in charge of local churches have returned a questionnaire on the hymnal mailed to them by the Commission on Worship.

The commission chairman, Bishop Edwin E. Voigt of Springfield, Ill., announced July 5 that 11,500 replies have been returned from every conceivable type of church in every annual conference. He said that results of the questionnaire are providing invaluable help to the Hymnal Committee of the Commission on Worship.

The 1960 General Conference directed the Commission on Worship to revise **The Methodist Hymnal**, including the responsive readings, and report to the 1964 Conference.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: All M.R.F. members are urged to mail in the questionnaires if they have not done so. Many town and country ministers are hoping for an enlarged "Gospel section" in the revised hymnal. But whatever our opinions they should be expressed through this questionnaire.)

"Church of The Year" Awards Given

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or so who have been added in the past two years, have completed an attractive new building with funds provided through the Lord's Acre program. The amount paid to missions is above average and the church raises twice as much per capita for salary as is true across the conference. Church school averages 70 in attendance. They also have active MYF and WSCS groups.

Meet the Commissions

(Editor's Note: In the last issue of the Bulletin we made an effort to introduce our readers to some of the town and country commissions and Methodist Rural Fellowships across the church. In this issue we introduce two more and complete the one in the S. C. Conference, Central Jurisdiction. We urge Commission chairmen and secretaries to send a sketch of the program and photographs of the officers for the December issue of the Bulletin.)

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE

Rev. Mr. Conner

The Rev. Roy C. Conner, pastor of the Pinesville-Bowman Charge, Orangeburg District, is the chairman of the Town and Country Commission of the South Carolina Conference.

Mr. Conner is a graduate of Union City School, Sheperson's Bible Institute and Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. Conner says, "Town and Country Work in South Carolina is moving to meet new frontiers in 1961–1962. Great emphasis is being placed on merging of charges. For example, work is being done toward making 18 charges out of the existing 28 charges. One circuit of five churches has already agreed to come together and form one strong church.

In addition to emphasis on research and survey the Commission is working closely with the other boards and agencies of the conference. Particular attention is being given to the local church.

ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA COMMISSION

Rev. Mr. Hill

The Chairman of the Alabama—West Florida Town and Country Commission is the Rev. H. C. Hill. In presenting its report of last year's work to the recent session of the annual conference, the Commission also presented a far-reaching program for the new conference year.

GIVES DISCIPLINARY PROVISIONS

In the first part of their report the Commission lifted from the Discipline those paragraphs dealing with the work and responsibilities and pointed out that the Commission is now a working group and no longer advisory only. The report quoted paragraph 1231 in detail. In light of the new legislation, the Commission then presented its proposed program for the coming year.

Recommendations

Among the recommendations to the annual conference was one on the organization and re-organization of circuits. "No circuit shall be formed without the ability to pay at least two-thirds of the minimum salary the first year, and to be able at the end of the third year to assume the full support of their pastor." The report further stated: "Since there is a great deal of over-lapping of circuit boundaries, we recommend that the Commission, in cooperation with the District Superintendent of each district, undertake the task of re-grouping churches, and re-organizing charges to improve the pastoral ministry in these areas."

In other recommendations the Commission urged that the minimum salary be raised to $3,600 for conference members and $3,000 for married approved supply pastors.

Ministerial Training

In the field of ministerial training and qualifications the Commission recommended that "any minister receiving minimum salary support shall be required to attend the Pastor's Assembly Workshop." It was further recommended, "Every minister receiving his first conference appointment and others on recommendation of their D.S. shall be required to attend a practical training session of four days, to be instructed in the duties of a Methodist minister.

Don Montgomery

Rev. Hosey

The Rev. Fred L. Hosey is secretary of the Commission, Don Montgomery the Executive Secretary, and the Rev. John E. Trost is the Treasurer.

Methodist Briefs

The Rev. Dr. Robert Louis Wood, 70, retired Maryland and Washington, D. C., minister, died Aug. 2 in Baltimore. Early in this century, he was one of the last "circuit riders" in Montana.

Commission on Town and Country Work of The Oklahoma Conference

Report to the Executive Secretaries Meeting at SMU, July 8-9, 1961. By M. A. Beeson, Executive Secretary, 311 South Duck Street, Stillwater, Oklahoma.

In June 1955 the Commission on Town and Country Work decided on a new approach to the problems of the rural churches by ignoring the decrease in rural population and by increasing and concentrating their efforts on those who remained and were not members of any church. In order to locate these a religious census was taken of the entire state in October 1956 which showed prospects in every church parish and the need for organizing two new churches. In some communities where there was a change from family farming to ranch farming it was desirable to combine some churches.

Evangelism Emphasized

After taking the census evangelism was emphasized, and even though the rural population had decreased on an average of 2% annually, the average annual percentage increase in members was 2.15% and the average annual percentage increase in total money paid was 6.46%. Many churches have improved their church buildings and parsonages, and a large number have built educational units, new churches and parsonages. Some have taken the initiative in community improvement and conserving natural resources. An example is given on the last page of this report.

Group Ministry Adopted

In 1958-59 the Group Ministry Plan was adopted for the entire conference. The districts were divided into related subdistricts with all churches in subdistricts cooperating under the supervision of the District Superintendents in carrying out the total program of the conference in all churches and in community improvement.

We are now in the process of taking the second state-wide religious census.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A TEN-YEAR PROGRAM

The Oklahoma Commission presented the following recommendations for a ten-year program in town and country work. The paper was signed by Charles Simpson, Chairman of the Commission; M. A. Beeson, Executive

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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A TEN-YEAR PROGRAM

(Continued from Page 6)

Secretary; and William Howard Wheat, Recording Secretary.

1. Churches be organized in subdistrict groups that have related community interests and the pastors and churches in subdistricts cooperate under the supervision of the District Superintendents in carrying out the total program of the church in every church in their subdistrict, especially in the areas of evangelisms, education, missions, stewardship, Methodist Men, Woman's Society of Christian Service, MYF and in community improvement.
2. 30% increase in members and 75% in total paid, during the 10-year period.
3. Every church represented by the pastor and leading laymen at all conference, district and subdistrict meetings where their church should be represented.
4. Every church fully organized and following the program of the Methodist Church.
5. Extend the boundaries of every rural church until they touch each other, every church **keep permanently a map and prospect cards** of their entire parish and **work their entire parish every year.**
6. A religious census of the entire state be taken every four years.
7. Two worship services, Sunday School, Methodist Men, and MYF in every rural church with laymen taking the services where ministers cannot.
8. Every rural church or charge have an adequate church plant(s) and parsonage. Using the Lord's Acre and Hour plan where needed.
9. The minimum salary for pastors be increased 45% during the 10-year period, depending on economic conditions.

. . . *Again*

THE METHODIST CHURCH OF WETUMKA, OKLAHOMA

(Record from 1955 to 1959)

1. Wetumka has a population of 2025, is 20 mi. from the county seat, and eight denominations have churches in the town.
2. In September, 1956 the Oklahoma Conference extended the boundaries of every Methodist Church until they touched each other and in October, 1956 each church took a religious census of their enlarged parish.
3. The Wetumka Methodist Church parish included 185 square miles of farm and ranch area, and the census taken of the entire area showed 91 Methodist preference, 185 no preference persons and 716 preferring other denominations making a total of 992 not members of any church.
4. There were few prospects in the town and the Fisherman's Club and the Sunday School worked the farm and ranch area.
5. 71 were received on profession of faith, 23 by letter and 34 from other denominations.
6. Farm families increased from 12 in 1956 to 28 in 1959 ..... 133.33% (Two farm boys entered the ministry)
7. Membership increased from 371 to 414 ..... 14.58%
8. S. S. average attendance increased from 116 to 158 ..... 36.20%
9. World Service & Advance Specials Increased from $725.00 to $1150.00 ..... 58.62%
10. Total paid annually increased from $11,205.00 to $19,812.00 ... 76.81%
11. Increase in amount paid pastor from $4,200.00 to $5,000.00 .... 19.05%

AN EVANGELISTIC CHURCH IS CONCERNED FOR THE COMMUNITY AND ITS NATURAL RECOURSES.

The members of Wetumka Church participated in the following community activities:

Town	Farm	General
Mayor	Working Unit Conservationist of Soil Conservation Service U.S. Dept. of Agriculture	Grade School Principal
Clerk	Soil Conservation Aid	Industrial Arts Teacher
Chief of Police	Soil Scientist	High School Band Dir.
Post Master	State Fish & Game Dept.	High School Athletic Coach
Fire Department	Farm Bureau	Kiwanis Club
Pres. Chamber of Commerce	4H Club	Boy Scouts
Hospital Board	Future Farmers Amer., Pres.	Cub Master
	Future Homemakers Amer.	P. T. A.
	County Commissioner	Heart Fund Chairman
		Pres. School Board
		Woman's Club
		W. C. T. U.
		Sportsman's Club
		Garden Club

How Ridiculous Can We Get?

The ridiculous extent to which the theory of separation of church and state can be carried is illustrated by an attorney general's decision that it is unlawful to use a public school while a church building is being constructed to house a new congregation.

Communists are currently conducting a renewed campaign for atheism in Russia. The end result of carrying the separation of church and state to such extremes that a school can neither be borrowed nor rented can very well lead to the same place that out-

(Continued on Page 8)

Specialist Named For Rural Church Work

(Continued from Page 1)

ological training at Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Ill., and received the bachelor of divinity degree in 1945. He has done graduate work at the University of Wisconsin at Madison and holds the master of science degree in sociology.

Mr. Huff has been a pastor of Methodist churches in Wisconsin and Oregon. He began his ministry in Oregon and was admitted to the Oregon Methodist Conference in 1945. He is married and has one son and three daughters.

From Phillip Aylesworth

(Continued from Page 2)

existing unemployment; rural areas, according to the highest in numbers and percentages of low-income families, and of substantial and persistent unemployment or underemployment. This legislation provides additional authority and a new "kit of tools" to assist local communities in carrying forward programs and projects of resource development. The Area Redevelopment Act supplements and supports the Rural Areas Development Program of the Department of Agriculture.

What Methodists Believe

A series of 12 articles on "What Methodists Believe" begins in the current (September) issue of **Together**, family magazine for Methodists published under the editorial direction of Dr. Leland D. Case.

The series opens with an article by Dr. E. Thomas Trotter of Southern California School of Theology at Claremont. Dr. Trotter discusses "The Church: Here Man Worships and Serves."

He is the first of a series of 12 theological professors—one from each of American Methodism's 12 seminaries —who will contribute an article in the series.

Each of the articles will be accompanied by a line drawing of the building most often associated with the seminary which has been responsible for that particular month's statement.

How Ridiculous Can We Get?

(Continued from Page 7)

right atheism can lead. The best defense a nation has against communism is a strong faith in God and a strong commitment to treat all persons as His children. The notion that the state has no interest in religion and must never show any interest in the Christian church except to avoid closing its doors or silencing its pulpits and classrooms give the impression to its citizens that religion is not worthy of support.

The founding fathers did not mean to separate the state from the church in the ridiculous manner in which some seek to separate them today. They meant rather to contain the power of the state so as not to hamper the free expression of man's religious nature.

—Editorial in All-Church Press, Dallas.

Southeastern Jurisdiction Holds T&C Meet

(Continued from Page 3)

spoke on "Faith Facing The Facts."

"Faith Function" was the subject of Dr. James W. Sells, who relinquished his time to Dr. W. D. Weathford of Berea College who gave an address on some of the results of the recent Applachian Studies.

Dr. G. Ross Freeman gave an address on "Function, A Spiritual Experience." Mrs. J. Fount Tillman spoke on "Faith Faces the Future" and Bishop John Owen Smith climaxed the lectures with an address entitled, "Make Methodism Mean More — From Grass Roots to World Vision."

Some fifteen discussion groups were held following the lectures. Those attending the conference chose the group they desired and remained in that group throughout the conference.

LORD'S ACRE GROWS

A SMALL BOY proudly displays his Lord's Acre Project.

In many areas of the church the Lord's Acre, Lord's Hour and Maize For Missions are growing programs. The editor has just been moved to a county which boasts of one of the largest Lord's Acre programs anywhere in the world.

Fall is the season for the Lord's Acre sales, ingathering and Harvest Festivals of Thanksgiving. The spiritual values of the plan are unlimited. Many a small, rural church with only one, two, or three services a month has found in the Lord's Acre a method whereby rural people can "work for the Lord" and the church many hours a week.

The Lord's Acre Program gives rural folks an opportunity to recognize God as the Provider, as the Giver of all blessings. Of course, there is always the danger that such a program will be misdirected. There is the hazard of allowing the financial gains to overshadow spiritual rewards. But as Dr. Dumont Clarke used to always say, "The Lord's Acre must always be correctly guided."

All types of churches are now participating in the Lord's Acre—open country circuit churches, two-point charges, small stations and county seat churches. With the proper motivation and guidance, none of these fail to receive a blessing from their efforts.

Dr. Walter Kerr, Tyler, Texas, pastor, recently was given honorary membership in the Future Farmers of America.

Bishop Smith Reassigned

Bishop W. Angie Smith has been reassigned by the Methodist Council of Bishops to supervise the Methodist work in Latin America. The one year assignment was made necessary by the recent death of Bishop Foster Stockwell.

Bishop Stockwell, a native of Shawnee, Oklahoma, had been elected to the episcopacy a year ago following a 35 year career as missionary-teacher in Latin America.

Bishop Smith previously supervised the work of the Latin American conferences for 12 years. The request for his reassignment came from the churches of Chile and Peru.

He will make a trip to South America in mid-winter to meet with church officials and to visit the schools and social centers conducted by the Methodist Church. He will visit the centers where the Methodist Church spent nearly a million dollars in relief last year following the earthquakes and tidal waves.

Bishop Smith will preside over the Central Conference of South America in the spring, at which time a bishop from South America will be elected to supervise the Latin American assignment. The new bishop will be concecrated by Bishop Smith following his election.

The number of Methodist churches in South America has grown so rapidly that a South American bishop is needed for constant supervision. Chile is a large annual conference and Peru is a provisional conference that will become an annual conference next year.

The supervision of the churches in Panama and Costa Rica has been assigned to Bishop Aubrey Walton, of the Louisiana area.

Dr. Glenn Sanford Retires

(Continued from Page 1)

small town churches for 12 years, was on the staff of the conference Board of Education for 8 years and was executive secretary of the conference Commission on Town and Country Work for 10 years prior to going with the Board of Missions.

Glenn, as town and country people know, has been vitally interested in promoting the Group Ministry across the church. He has been a long-time friend and promoter of the Methodist Rural Fellowship. In his retirement we wish for him improved health and a long life. Dr. Sanford's home address can be obtained by writing to the Board of Missions, 1701 Arch Street, Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Heard at Southeastern Town and Country Conference

Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, July 27-30

"The mission and purpose of Methodists and other Christians is not to change things but to change human life and the direction in which we are going."—The Rev. Dr. Carl J. Sanders, Richmond, Va., pastor.

"If the farm population must decline, if farming must be supplemented by other lucrative endeavors, if new patterns of life are invading traditionally rural communities, it need not be seen as a disastrous end of civilization or of the American way of life. It may be that God is working out some new and good thing for us." —The Rev. Dr. Harry V. Richardson, president of Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta.

"Every rural church should become a place of community worship, a school to teach the meaning of religion, an instrument of moral discipline, an agency through which people unite for common service and a means for propagating the tenets of religion." — The Rev. Dr. G. Ross Freeman, Candler School of Theology, Atlanta.

"The Southern Appalachian region, with 6½ million people, is the most open, most accessible and most promising mission field in the world."—The Rev. Dr. W. D. Weatherford of Berea College, Kentucky.

Dr. John Howes Speaks At T&C, Syracuse, N.Y.

Dr. Howes

Dr. John Howes, Professor of Rural Church, Wesley Thelogical Seminary, gave the principal address for the Town and Country Commission evening session of the Central New York Conference in Syracuse June 26. The speaker gave an analysis of the size of parishes, the status of pastors' salaries, and the ministerial supply situation. He used these facts as a basis for a challenge to the Conference to consider the use of Group Ministeries and Larger Parishes to strengthen the parish structure and to redeploy available trained, experienced leadership. R. J. McCune and William Swales are chairman and executive secretary respectively of the Commission.

"Retarded Children" Share

"May 13, 1960—Enclosed is a money order for CROP. It represents offerings from a weekly religious education class sponsored by the Dearborn Pastors' Union for children of the Dearborn, Michigan School for Retarded Children . . . Rev. (Kearney) Kirkby works with several women in planning these weekly sessions which are held in Mt. Olivet Community Methodist Church."

Two months later—"Enclosed is a money order . . . We appreciated your note and material regarding CROP and Rev. Kirkby shared it with the children. **They understand a great deal about giving and sharing with others.**"

"December 8, 1960 — Enclosed you will find a check . . . We have appreciated your interpretive brochures. Any pictures or information which would help these children feel that they are entering into the gift will be appreciated."

"June 2, 1961 — Enclosed is a cashier's check . . ."

In just a little over a year this small group of children has contributed $128.26 to help needy children. "This offering comes each week as part of their chapel service", one letter states.

Minnesota CROP

Minnesota corn gathered in county canvasses last fall and processed by A. E. Staley manufacturing company at Decatur, Illinois was being distributed at many points in Southern Europe and the Near East, so stated Rev. Elvin Franz, Illinois CROP Director recently. Mr. Franz spent two months visiting food distribution centers, institutions where CROP foods are being used and communities where CROP has helped to supply self help materials such as tools, seeds and chicks. Rev. Franz gave an extensive report of his trip at the annual Summer Staff Conference of state and national CROP workers held at Williams Bay, Wisconsin last month.

Corn oil is especially valuable in the Mediterranean Countries since oil is the fat used in almost all of the cooking. Consequently, Minnesota corn was gathered and a carload or more given through CROP helps to supply urgently needed cooking oils in Algeria, Jordan and Greece. Since January 1st, 1961 over 250,000 pounds of corn oil has been shipped to these countries and Hong Kong, India, Turkey, Taiwan and East Pakistan.

The 1960 Minnesota CROP appeal totaled over $40,000 in commodities and cash. Over 17,000 bushels of corn was shipped from Nobles, Fillmore,

(Continued on Page 12)

The Whole Church and The Total Community

"You Can't Be Christian Alone" is the theme of the Christian Education Week observance for 1961. It echoes the statement of many years ago, "No man is an island," and the assertion of the apostle Paul that "We are members one of another." A Christian serves God as part of a fellowship of people. The emphasis of the observance, September 24-30, will be on education within the fellowship for responsible living both in and beyond the Christian community.

Much-Needed Observance

Christian Education Week is a much-needed observance, for it helps all the people of the church to understand that it is the whole church that teaches, not alone the church school classes. Christian education classes cannot be effective if they do not have around them a vigorous, faithful Christian community in the church. The observation of the week also reminds the people outside the church, in the larger community, of the importance of Christian education for them and for the world. We need to do a lot more than condemn "godless materialism and communism." Unless we can bring up children and young people surrounded by a convincing fellowship whose faith is in God and whose allegiance is to him, we are encouraging them to give their affection to materialism.

Timely Emphasis

This emphasis on the togetherness of the Christian life is timely also because it stresses the responsibility of Christians toward their community. Enlightened Christians want to be aware of the needs of their community and to help find a solution to the suffering, poverty, lostness, and evil in the community. The observance will give opportunity to churches to make apparent their concern for the community and all the people whom the church should be serving.

It is now time to be thinking of Christian Education Week and laying plans for it. In addition to the general emphasis and theme chosen nationally, the churches of each community will have specific goals they want to achieve by working together.

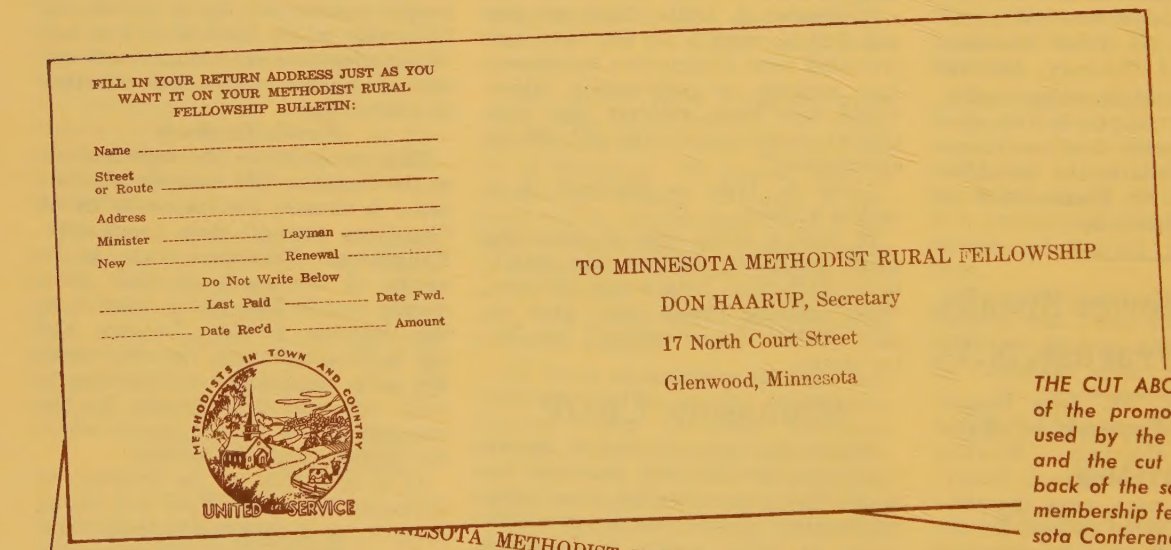
—International Journal of Religious Education

MINNESOTA AND MISSOURI PROMOTE METHODIST RURAL FELLOWSHIP

The Methodist Rural Fellowship is being given wonderful promotion in the Minnesota Conference and in the Missouri Area by Don Haarup and Dan Schores respectively. The photographs and envelopes below give some indication of the work being done in these conferences.

BISHOP OTTO T. NALL looks over the Minnesota Methodist Rural Fellowship promotion envelope, introduced at the 1961 Minnesota Annual Conference.

MISS CONNIE RUSSELL, chairman of town and country work for the Woman's Division, speaks to Minnesota town and country leaders, William Foster, Harold Clark and Forrest Strnad, relative to a larger parish somewhere in Minnesota in cooperation with the Woman's Division. Miss Russell conferred two days with the Commission and also addressed the annual conference.



FILL IN YOUR RETURN ADDRESS JUST AS YOU WANT IT ON YOUR METHODIST RURAL FELLOWSHIP BULLETIN:

Name _____

Street or Route _____

Address _____

Minister _____ Layman _____

New _____ Renewal _____

Do Not Write Below

_____ Last Paid _____ Date Fwd.

_____ Date Rec'd _____ Amount

METHODISTS IN TOWN AND COUNTRY

UNITED SERVICE

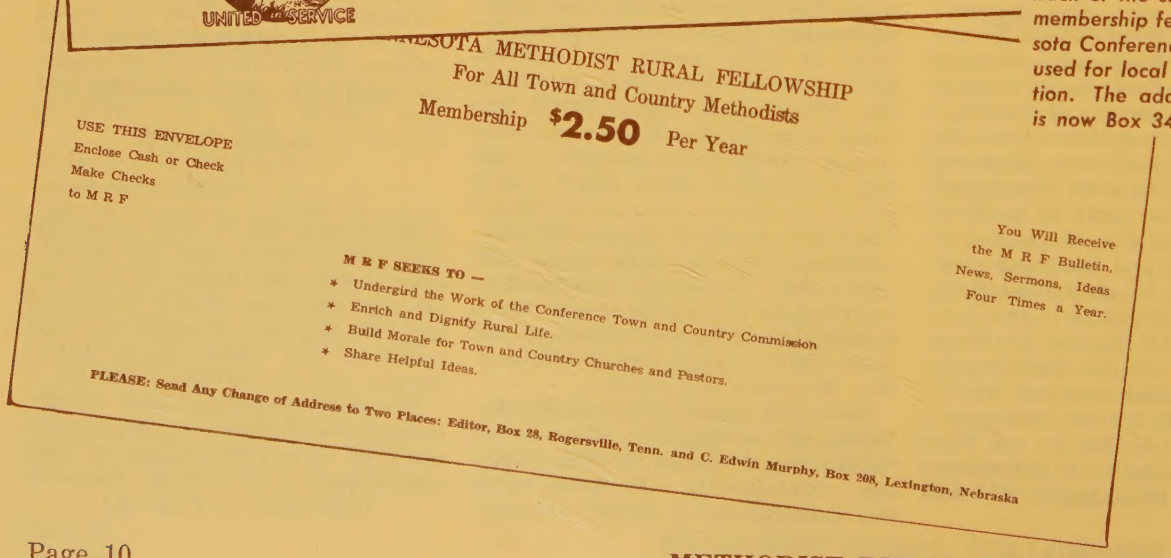
TO MINNESOTA METHODIST RURAL FELLOWSHIP

DON HAARUP, Secretary

17 North Court Street

Glenwood, Minnesota

THE CUT ABOVE is of the front of the promotional envelopes used by the Minnesota M.R.F. and the cut below shows the back of the same envelope. The membership fee is for the Minnesota Conference, fifty cents being used for local conference promotion. The address of the editor is now Box 346, Pearisburg, Va.



MINNESOTA METHODIST RURAL FELLOWSHIP

For All Town and Country Methodists

Membership **$2.50** Per Year

USE THIS ENVELOPE
Enclose Cash or Check
Make Checks
to M R F

You Will Receive
the M R F Bulletin,
News, Sermons, Ideas
Four Times a Year.

M R F SEEKS TO —

* Undergird the Work of the Conference Town and Country Commission
* Enrich and Dignify Rural Life.
* Build Morale for Town and Country Churches and Pastors.
* Share Helpful Ideas.

PLEASE: Send Any Change of Address to Two Places: Editor, Box 28, Rogersville, Tenn. and C. Edwin Murphy, Box 208, Lexington, Nebraska

What Is The Methodist Rural Fellowship

Dan Shores, in his Missouri Area Town and Country Newsletter, promotes the Methodist Rural Fellowship in the following manner.

A fellowship of ministers and laymen concerned with Methodism's responsibility toward creating and sustaining a Christian culture in rural America.

ARE YOU A MEMBER?

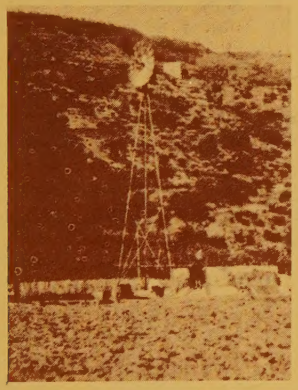
Many Methodist laymen and pastors in Missouri are long-time members of the MRF, including Bishop Eugene M. Frank. How about you?

Membership includes getting an annual subscription to the MRF Bulletin, Christian Rural Fellowship Bulletin, and RURAL MISSIONS each of which come out quarterly. Besides this reading matter there are MRF meetings, special literature, and the feeling that you are supporting an agressive rural program.

The MRF was responsible for the simplified commission structure in Methodism. It continues to advance legislation to strengthen rural churches.

Our aim is ten new MRF members in each district this year. We'd like you to be one. Enclosed is a membership blank. Fill it out today and mail with your check.

Former Indiana Windmill Now in Italy



The windmill pictured above is the only thing of its kind in southern Italy. Elvin Frantz, Illinois CROP director, visited Falerna and took this picture of the Indiana-donated windmill and water storage tank. The water is being used to irrigate tomatoes.

When the present owner of the windmill saw its parts as it had been broken down for shipment, he almost got cold feet and didn't think he wanted to go through with the deal. But he was persuaded to try it out, and now people from all over the "boot" of Italy, down to the island of Sicily, journey to Falerna to see it and the work it is doing.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

(Continued from Page 2)

McConnell, of Boston University School of Theology, and Professor J. M. Ormond, of Duke Divinity School, were guiding spirits in this organizational meeting.

The fellowship has met nationally during each General Conference, at every National Methodist Town and Country Conference, and at every National Convocation on the church in Town and Country. It has held two study conferences: One was held in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1945 and another in Columbus, Ohio, in 1960.

Noteworthy Record

The Fellowship has had a noteworthy record in getting legislation through the General Conference and in influencing the overall policies of the church as they affect town and country churches. It has proposed and sponsored the following actions that have found acceptance in the church, to mention a few:

The holding of the National Methodist Town and Country Conference, of which there have been four.

The enlarging of the Conference Commission on Town and Country Work to include many "grass roots" people.

Making the Conference Commission a program agency.

Asking for Church School literature that would have simplified sentence structure and limited vocabulary. Result, —The Broadly Graded Series.

The seperate item of "travel and expense" in the local church budget in connection with the pastor's support.

The Fellowship issues quarterly the METHODIST RURAL FELLOWSHIP BULLETIN. It is the only published medium of exchange of town and country church news in The Methodist Church. The CHRISTIAN RURAL FELLOWSHIP BULLETIN and the publications of Agricultural Missions are mailed with the Bulletin.

Clearing Confusion

Some people are confused as to the place and function of the Fellowship as compared with the Commission on Town and Country Work, in the Annual Conference. The Fellowship is the supporting group to the Commission. Many people will be a part of both: They will be members of the Fellowship who have been elected members of the Commission. The following comparison may be helpful:

Methodist Rural Fellowship

Unofficial

Membership open to all who share purpose (—and pay membership fee!)

National, but has Conference units.

Holds voluntary meetings, such as luncheons at Annual Conference.

May provide a forum for discussion.

Commission on Town and Country Work

Official

Membership limited to those specified by the **Discipline.**

Annual Conference

Holds official meetings.

It may be seen that the Fellowship is free to have a wide discussion of policies that may receive later official action by the Commission. The Fellowship and Commission should work together in closest harmony at all times.

Garland R. Stafford,
President

9,230 Annual Openings In The Methodist Church

At least 9,230 full-time workers are needed annually to fill openings in The Methodist Church, it is announced by the Rev. Richard H. Bauer, executive secretary of the Interboard Committee on Christian Vocations.

The denomination needs to recruit each year at least 2,400 new ministers, 350 missionaries, 1,480 Christian educators (including teachers, directors of Christian education, Wesley Foundation directors, and others), and 5,000 for its healing ministry (doctors, nurses, and technicians). The church also offers vocational opportunities in various other fields.

Wheat To Algeria

(Continued from Page 5)

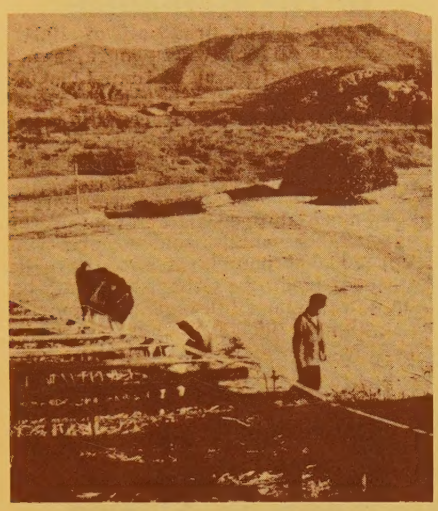
who fled the battle areas of the country and are suffering effects of a drouth.

The carload of wheat, totalling 80,000 lbs. left Union Equity Co-operative Exchange by rail for Houston. It will reach Algeria by freighter. The wheat was taken from that collected in Oklahoma's 25 wheat counties, with the entire state sharing in credit for collection.

National CROP officials requested the wheat for Algeria because of the severe drouth which has caused unusual suffering among the Nomadic tribes. Half the animals belonging to the tribesmen have died because of the drouth. They are practically the only source of food and clothing for the people.

Willis DeSpain, secretary of the Oklahoma Co-operative Grain Dealers Assn., presented the carload of wheat to the CROP organization at brief dedication ceremonies at Enid. He represented Edd Puckett, manager of Union Equity, state wheat campaign chairman. The carload of wheat was accepted by Walter Mounts, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma CROP Director.

Kansas CROP News



This picture is the sight of the new dairy barn to be erected from CROP self-help contributions. The lean-to shed in the picture is the present dairy barn in Korea.

The Union Christian Service Center initiated a dairy in 1955 but has never been able to complete the barn which is now beyond repair. **"We have waited a long time"**, states Dean Schowangerdt, **"for building a new adequate barn for our purposes."**

Kansas CROP has agreed to support the new barn building project for the Union Christian Service Center at Taejon, Korea.

This project has been planned to train village leaders, develop the steep Korean hills for feed utilization, dairy stock for farmers and village leaders, and to provide milk for undernourished people.

Funds for this barn-raising project have been received. **The First Methodist Church in Manhattan** has contributed liberally. Other churches are making plans for community convasses for this project.

Contact the Kansas Council of Churches' CROP office for barn plans, detailed information and pictures (allow two weeks for pictures). **A total of four thousand six hundred dollars is needed to complete the two barns needed for this self-help project.** Send your contribution to CROP, 835 Western, Topeka, Kansas.

Minnesota CROP

(Continued from Page 9)

Le Sueur, Waseca and Winona counties.

The Minnesota State CROP Committee set a 1961 state goal of $46,000 in cash and commodities and appeals are being planned and organized in more than 20 countries for canvassing in November. State CROP Sunday will be November 19 and state Crop week November 12-19.

Missouri Area Appoints T&C Directors

Following is a list of district town and country directors for the Missouri Area. Some conferences refer to these men as district town and country secretaries. Perhaps this is the most widely used term. But regardless of the specific title, these men are available for promotional work in their respective districts. They discuss cooperative charges, Lord's Acre, show films from the Area Library, provide town and country literature and help with community surveys.

DISTRICT TOWN AND COUNTRY DIRECTORS

MISSOURI EAST CONFERENCE:

Cape-Farmingham ..... Rev. Bennie J. Wilsey, Marble Hill
Hannibal-Mexico ..... Rev. Donald Rooks, Vandalia
Jefferson City ..... Rev. Ted Mallinckrodt, Fulton
Kirksville ..... Rev. Ray Lindsay, Brashear
Poplar Bluff ..... Rev. Ivan Lee LaTurno, Kennett
Rolla ..... Rev. John Walker, Cabool
St. Louis South ..... Rev. Glen Mangam, Rt. 1, Festus
St. Louis North ..... Rev. John L. Powell, Elsberry

MISSOURI WEST CONFERENCE:

Chillicothe ..... Rev. Joseph Cooper, Unionville
Fayette-Marshall ..... Rev. Walter Brunner, Lexington
Joplin ..... Rev. Roger Davis, Cassville
Kansas City South ..... Rev. Charles Burner, Belton
Kansas City North ..... Rev. Earl Griffith, Richmond
Maryville ..... Rev. Ben R. Mock, Fairfax
Nevada ..... Rev. Richard C. White, Bolivar
St. Joseph ..... Rev. Clifford Love, Kidder
Sedalia ..... Rev. Steve Gardner, Lincoln
Springfield ..... Rev. Christy Oetting, Richland

Program of Lay Training Is Conference Emphasis

Protestant churches use only five per cent of their laymen as leaders and need to do a better job training more people and distributing leadership responsibility.

Seeking to overcome this lag, the Southern California-Arizona Conference recently approved a year-long effort in 1962-63 to initiate in local churches a program to find and train more laymen to do the work required to carry out the church's mission in the community.

The conference board of education presented a carefully worked out program of lay training which, under the action, will have priority throughout the conference. This will begin with a survey of the needs in each local church, followed by the selection and careful training of leaders, and finally by the commissioning of leaders for service.

Conference Executive Secretary Grover C. Bagby said "We want this to be a continuous program in a church and not a one-shot effort for a particular year."

One of the district superintendents will serve as general chairman of the leadership emphasis. During the year special materials will be developed to aid churches, and accredited Christian workers schools will be held.

Parsonage 'Standards' Approved by N. Iowa

Parsonage life in the Iowa Area may be more pleasant one of these days—at least it will be if every church comes to a set of "basic standards" recommended by the North Iowa Conference.

Prepared jointly the North Iowa Woman's Society of Christian Service and the Town and Country Commission, the report lists standards for each room in the parsonage.

"It is the privilege and responsibility of the members of the congregation to make every effort to provide the physical setting which will give the parsonage family the maximum comfort and convenience," the report noted.

> **"Because the parsonage, like the church building reflects the congregation and the pastor, it should be in such condition that all concerned can be justifiably proud of it."**

Two of the many suggestions reflect the customs of The Methodist Church and the times. Among other general room standards are:

An adequate stairway suitable for moving furniture and equipment; and

A television antenna.